

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M: 29-16

1. Name: Locust Grove I (Samuel Wade Magruder House)

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 29/16

3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 20  
Coordinate G-34. Address: 7401 Lakeview Drive  
Bethesda, Md.

## 5. Classification Summary

Category buildingOwnership privatePublic Acquisition N/AStatus work in progressAccessible yes; restrictedPresent use other;commerical;educationalPrevious Survey Recording MNCPPCTitle and Date: Historic Sites Inventory  
1976Federal      State x County x Local     6. Date: c. 1773-1781;  
1891-1898

7. Original Owner: Samuel Wade Magruder

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. fair/deteriorated b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This nine bay by one bay house faces southeast: built in two sections - the northeast five bay, two and a half story section constructed of Flemish bonded brick painted red (the northeast end was rebuilt in common bond in 1890s); the southwest four bay, two story section is frame and has red novelty siding. There is a southeast porch on brick section with a shed roof supported by six turned posts; there is a glass enclosed porch with a shed roof on the southeast elevation of the frame section. The brick section has two-over-two double-hung windows and on the northwest elevation nine-over-nine and six-over-six double-hung windows. The frame section has six-over-six double-hung windows. Both frame and brick sections have gable roofs with red raised seam metal covering.

10. Significance: Locust Grove I is one of Montgomery County's few remaining 18th century houses, the only one still extant in the north Bethesda area. It is significant as the residence of one of the County's "founding fathers", and also as a boyhood home of a national figure, William Wirt.

Samuel Wade Magruder (c. 1728-1792) was prominent in the political life of the County from the time of the French and Indian War until 1790. A lieutenant in the colonial militia in the 1750s, during the Revolution he served in the 29th Battalion, Maryland militia, first as a captain and later as major. After the separation of Montgomery and Frederick counties, he served as judge of the Montgomery County Court from 1777-1790.

Magruder inherited the tract called "Magruder's Discovery" in 1751 and built the original mansion between 1773 and 1781. Between 1783-1785 he took in as a boarder young William Wirt, attending school nearby. Wirt later served as Attorney General of the U.S. from 1817 to 1829 under Presidents Monroe and John Quincy Adams, and was a presidential candidate in 1832.

Purchased in 1978 by a subsidiary of Chevy Chase Savings and Loan, the Magruder House will be restored and adaptively reused.

11. Researcher and date researched: Ann Van Devanter 2/79

Candy Reed/Architectural Description

12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock

13. Date Compiled: 2/79

14. Designation  
Approval     

15. Acreage: 1.2670 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 29/16  
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Locust Grove I

AND/OR COMMON

Samuel Wade Magruder House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

7401 Lakeview Drive

CITY, TOWN

Bethesda

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

\_\_\_OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

☒ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_MILITARY

☒ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Manor Investment Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevy Chase Savings & Loan, Inc.

Telephone #: 652-1551

STREET & NUMBER

8401 Connecticut Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Chevy Chase

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 5256

Folio #: 33

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

\_\_\_FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Locust Grove is a brick, two story, five bay house with a two story frame service wing attached to the west end. The house dates from c. 1773-1781, and was extensively renovated in the 1890s. A photograph of 1876, however, together with historical documents, indicates that with the exception of the addition of one-story open porches on the front (south) side; alteration in size of some window openings, and change in the roof to a lower pitch, as well as removal of exterior chimneys on the east end, the exterior of the house is close to the 18th c. original. On the interior, the floor plan appears to be that of the 18th century; all visible features are 1890s. Many elements of the 18th century fabric of the house, reused in the 1890s renovation, exist, but out of context and hidden within the present structural fabric of the house.

The main house faces south; its walls are laid in flemish bond with a belt course marking the second floor on the south front (hidden by the existing 1890s porch but clearly visible in the 1876 photo). A pair of exterior chimneys, also in flemish bond, are on the west end, partially obscured by the service wing. The chimneys have sloped weatherings on both stories marking the fireplaces within. A single interior chimney rises above the south slope of the roof on the east end.

There is a door in the central bay of both south and north facades the latter having only a single bay with one window on each side of the central bay. Closers on each side of a single window centered in the west gable lighting the attic, prove it to be an original feature, though changed in height and detail.

Areas of common bond, including a large area of the north, second story facade, almost the entire east elevation, and areas above all 2nd story windows, which appear to have been heightened, result from a massive alteration.

The tin-covered roof is of a very low pitch; a paint-line survives on the west gable, clearly indicating an earlier, steeper roof.

The cornice with concealed gutters, the two-over-two windows with louvered blinds, the exterior doors and the porch together with the low roof pitch and patched brick, all appear consistent with building styles of the 1890s. The 1876 photograph shows the house with its original steeper roof, windows with small panes (6/6 in both stories, panes much taller in the first story), no front porch and an external chimney (possibly a pair of external chimneys) at the east end, the latter about to fall away from the wall. A small stoop at the front door is flanked by benches with scrolled legs.

On each floor, the center hall with a straight flight of stairs between the first and second floors, is flanked by two rooms on each side. In the first story, only the northeast room is without a fireplace. Stairwork, doors, trim, mantels, flooring and lathing all appear to date consistently to the 1890s.

The west wall of the hall, dividing it from the pair of west rooms, is of brick, from the cellar to the attic-floor level.

Only a hatch in the ceiling of a small room at the south end of the second story hall gives access to the attic, which has indications of having been fully finished and used for living space originally, when

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY roof pitch was steeper.

(continued on Attachment Sheet A)

Second floor ceiling joists include late 18th century beaded beams originally intended to be exposed; solid roof sheathing appears to be old flooring, exhibiting typical tongue and groove guides with adzing over former joists. Plaster on the inside of the west gable outlines former knee walls, ceilings height, and roof pitch.

In the cellar, much of the first floor framing appears original, although many beaded joists, reused from elsewhere, have been added. Original material is sawn with hewn girders; one beaded board, possibly a piece of original baseboard, was observed in a reused position. Hearths are framed under each of the three fireplaces, and evidence for similar framing exists under the northeast room. Two unglazed windows on the south facade have square horizontal wood bars set diagonally; original beaded frames survive with mortise and tenon joints and exterior backband. A batten door with beaded wood frame (part of the 18th century fabric) is set into the brick cross wall.

A massive stone exterior chimney stands at the west end of the frame service wing, with sloped weatherings reflecting the first story kitchen fireplace within, carefully formed in the rubble-ashlar masonry. A brick tack, separated from the frame structure, extends above the roof.

The wing is sheathed with German siding; 6/6 windows of the first story, and 3/3 of the second, are framed with very plain trim.

The fireplace is closed inside, and interior finishes and details appear consistent with the present 1890s interior of the main house. Only a hatch in the ceiling gives access to the second story, which was at one time finished for use, and shows evidence of a fire said to have happened within the past two decades. Whether this wing pre-dates the main house or dates from the early 19th century cannot be known without further investigation. The massive stone chimney does appear to pre-date the main house and possibly the wing itself.

Several frame outbuildings, all apparently late 19th century, contain some straight-sawn material; at least one contains reused material predating the massive alteration of the main house.

The house stands on a hill surrounded by ancient specimen trees, including black walnuts.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

M:29-16

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

Local History

SPECIFIC DATES c.1773-1781; 1891-1898 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although later alterations have given it a distinctly late 19th century appearance, Locust Grove (also known as the Samuel Magruder House) is in fact one of Montgomery County's few remaining 18th century houses. Samuel Wade Magruder (c. 1728-1792) inherited the land on which it stands -- a tract called "Magruder's Discovery" -- from his father, Capt. Alexander Magruder, in 1751, and built the original mansion between 1773 and 1781.

Magruder was prominent in the political life of the county from the time of the French and Indian War until 1790. He was a lieutenant in the colonial militia in the 1750s, and during the Revolution served first as a captain and later as major in the 29th Battalion, Maryland militia. After the separation of Montgomery and Frederick counties he served as judge of the Montgomery County Court from 1777 to 1790.

During the years 1783-1785, while Magruder was still living at Locust Grove, he took in as a boarder a boy named William Wirt, who was attending school nearby. Wirt went on to become a well-known author and lawyer. He served as Attorney General of the U.S. from 1817 to 1829, in the cabinets of Presidents James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, and was a candidate for President on the Anti-Masonic ticket in 1832. In his memoirs, Wirt provides a description of the old mansion and its outbuildings and gives some idea of the flavor of country life there two centuries ago.

Locust Grove was purchased in 1978 by Manor Investment Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevy Chase Savings and Loan, Inc. The Savings and Loan is now formulating extensive plans for restoration and adaptive use.

Locust Grove is historically significant as the residence of one of Montgomery County's founding fathers, and as a site in the history of an important national figure, William Wirt. It is one of the few remaining 18th century structures in Montgomery County and the only one still extant in its immediate neighborhood of North Bethesda. As such, it is the last remnant of a vanished heritage for a vital segment of the Montgomery County populace.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Walton, John M., Jr., Locust Grove: A House and Its History, with Special Emphasis on the Historical Documentation for Structural Changes. Prepared for Brisker-Campitelli Enterprises. Clinton, Md., August 15, 1974. Typescript, 4 vols. On deposit with Ann Van Devanter, Chevy Chase Savings and Loan, Inc.  
(Primary source citations are included in Mr. Walton's manuscript).  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.2670 acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Property bounded on the North (Northwest) by Westlake Terrace, the South (Southeast) by Lakeview Drive, the East by Westlake Drive, and the West by the site for the proposed Westlake Terrace Town House Development to be built by Brisker-Campitelli Enterprises.

Parcel N, "Lakeview", as shown on Plat 12142, Plat Book 5256

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Ann Van Devanter

Ann Van Devanter/Architectural Descrip.

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

2/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO:

~~Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

1607635204

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Samuel Wade Magruder House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Locust Grove I				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 7401 Lakeview Drive				
CITY OR TOWN: Bethesda				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		<b>Public Acquisition:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Nathan Brisker (developer of this tract)				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

M:29-16

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a large, two-story brick structure with a one and a half-story frame wing attached to the west. The main (south) facade is of five bays, the entrance being in the central bay. A one-story, open Victorian porch runs across the front of the house. The brickwork is of flemish bond on the front and rear, and common bond on the ends. There are flat brick arches of gauged brick over the windows, and the windows themselves are two-over-two, double-hung, except for three original six-over-six panes on the rear of the house. The roof, once steeply pitched, now is of moderate slope and the chimneys are internal on the east end of the house; while on the west end, they are double, external stacks that are irregular in height. The uppermost weatherings end just above the second story fireplace level.

The frame wing on the west of the house may possibly be earlier than the main house. In any event, it appears to have been used as a kitchen wing for the main house. Originally of one-story (possibly log), it seems to have been heightened at some time. On the west wall there is a large, external stone fireplace with a tall brick stack. Two widely-spaced, six-pane, eyebrow windows sit under the eaves on the main (south) facade and the rest is obscured by a one-story, enclosed porch.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



M:29-16

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century            |                                       |

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  |  |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:29-16

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 5/12/75
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Ave.	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Montgomery</u> TOWN <u>Chevy Chase</u> VICINITY <u>Montgomery Mall</u> STREET NO. <u>7401 Lakeview Rd</u>  ORIGINAL OWNER <u>Samuel Macgruder</u> ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>Dr. John Solomon</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2</u>	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>14-52</u>  2. NAME <u>Samuel Macgruder's Brick House</u> (or <u>Locust Grove I</u> ) DATE OR PERIOD <u>late 18th Century</u> STYLE <u>?</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER  3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>No</u>  <p>Samuel Magruder's House was built in the late 18th century and has much the same detail as a southern Maryland house. It is built of brick laid in Flemish bond on three sides, and is five bays long on the south and three bays long on the north. The entire building is two rooms deep. The east gable contains on small chimney within the wall and the west gable contains two chimneys projecting out from the wall. One can see in each gable that the roof has been lowered at a later date. Off the west gable is a two story frame kitchen wing with stone fireplace. Above the windows are flat arches - the frames and sash have been altered since the house was constructed. There is a stepped water table and the house sits on a stone foundation.</p> <p>A plaque on the south facade reads:</p> <p>HOME OF SAMUEL WADE MAGRUDER 1728 - 1792</p> <p>LIEUT. OF VOLUNTEERS FRENCH &amp; INDIAN WAR MAJ. OF MD. BATTALION</p> <p>MAGISTRATE OF 1st COURT MONT. CO. MD. 1777 MEMBER OF COMMITTEE TO EFFECT RESOLVE</p> <p>RESOLUTIONS OF FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS</p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>possibly</u> Interior Exterior <u>fair</u>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">           Overseer: Mr. Herbert Himelfarb            8816 Altmont Lane            Chevy Chase, Md.         </div>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)  8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	7. PHOTOGRAPH <u>Color 585 / B+W 586</u>  9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u>  DATE OF RECORD <u>June 18, 1968</u>

# Locust Grove I

**I**N the Bethesda area of lower Montgomery County, not more than five miles from the District line, stands an old brick house which is full of the traditions and atmosphere of colonial days. Being on a slightly travelled cross-country road, it is safe to guess that the existence of Locust Grove is known by few of the present citizens of Bethesda in their hurry and hustle. Fewer still have knowledge of its interesting historic background. It was the



NO. 52 G-8 SAMUEL WADE MAGRUDER  
CA. 1770-1775 BRICK

home of several members of the Magruder family, that virile and forthright clan which has been a potent factor in Maryland history for 300 years.

The most illustrious occupant of the old home was Major Samuel Wade Magruder who lived there for many years and who was a real factor in the struggles of the Colonies for independence. Major Magruder fought in the French and Indian War as a lieutenant; he became a major in the Continental Army. He was one of the justices of the first county court to sit at Rockville after Montgomery became a separate county in 1776.

On November 18, 1774, he attended a meeting of citizens at Frederick County Court House, and was qualified to vote for representatives of the country to "carry into execution the association agreed upon by the American Continental Congress." The Congress on September 5 had adopted a plan "for carrying into effect the non-importation, non-consumption and non-exportation" association. At a meeting of the inhabitants of Frederick County held at the

Court House on January 24, 1775, "the resolves of the American Congress and the proceedings of the last Provincial Convention were read and unanimously approved." Magruder was one of a large committee then appointed to carry the resolutions into execution.

Alexander Magruder was the first of the name to migrate to Maryland in 1651 from Perthshire, Scotland. According to family legends Alexander came as a prisoner of war and slave.

Major Samuel Wade Magruder, great grandson of Alexander was born in Charles County, later Prince George's, in 1732, and died at Locust Grove in 1792. He married Lucy Beall, the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Brooke) Beall. His father, Alexander II, who died in 1751, was a prominent vestryman of Prince George's Parish. His grandfather, Samuel Magruder, had his last will and testament proved in 1779 (at Rockville). At this time Samuel Wade, who would have been forty-seven, probably built the house, when he was prominent in public affairs at the time of the Revolution. Additional evidence of the building date appears in the reminiscences of the Hon. William Wirt, who, as a student boarding at Locust Grove between 1783 and 1785, stated at that time that the house had been built only a short while.

William Wirt was born in Bladensburg, Maryland, in 1772, and was one of the greatest lawyers of his day. He was Attorney General of the United States from 1817 to 1829. He was a boy of fifteen at the major's home when it was a very busy place of over 300 acres with large farming operations, a grist mill to manage, and at times twenty or more people in the household, in addition to the help.

Wirt left a glowing account of life on the large plantation with the major. He described the major as a large jolly man with sandy hair and a booming voice. He was a great lover of fox-hunting and joking with the boys, but was stern at any infractions of his regulations. Tusculum Academy, the school of Clergyman James Hunt, stood across the road, a long walk from the home.

The house of red brick laid in Flemish bond, has a center hall with a rear door to the garden, two rooms on the right with one fireplace, and two rooms on the left, each with a fireplace; on the second floor are four rooms without fireplaces.

The major has not been overlooked by the D.A.R. In October, 1940, the Janet Montgomery Chapter with fitting ceremonies placed on the old brick wall near the front door a bronze plaque which states:

"Home of Samuel Wade Magruder (1732-1792) Lieut., Volunteers, French and Indian War. Magistrate of First Court of Montgomery County 1777. Major Maryland Battalion. Member of Committee to effect resolutions of First Continental Congress."

Upon the death of Major Magruder, his son, Lloyd, inherited the estate, but became financially involved in loans, to help finance sales of tobacco abroad, upon which he could not collect, and in 1838 Locust Grove was sold at Public auction to John A. Carter, son-in-law of Lloyd. The mill was sold off the farm in 1853 to William Orndorff (his wife was Susannah Adams).

Orndorff is described by some of his descendants as a spendthrift. He lost a lot of property, and it is believed Locust Grove passed from his hands about the time of Susannah (Adams) Orndorff's death in 1870.

In 1901 the farm, containing 258 acres, was sold to Robert Weaver of Georgetown. After his death in 1924 it passed by inheritance to his son, Maurice E. Weaver. Mr. Maurice Weaver, who inherited this place from his father, died a few years ago. But before his death the historic old place was sold to Dr. John H. Solomon, the present owner in 1961. Dr. Solomon now lives in a modern home on the edge of the lawn and has erected a large building occupied by the I.B.M. and is building two apartment buildings.

In a talk the author had with Dr. Solomon at his home on this historic old place, summer of 1961, the good doctor has respect for antiques of Montgomery County. The rugged brick house built by Dr. Samuel Wade Magruder nearly two centuries ago, with its associations, with a great patriot and a seat of this County before the Revolutionary War still stands. The doctor assured me that he would do what he could to remodel and restore the house.

## Locust Grove II

THIS substantial stone and frame dwelling is less than a mile from Brookeville on the north side of the road leading to Laytonsville. It stands on a pleasing elevation facing south. Although built by a member of the Riggs family, the house has been the home of the Howard family for over a century. The four hundred acres surrounding it are part of Bordley's Choice and include those parts which John Riggs devised to his sons, John and Elisha, in 1762.

Early records indicate that Elisha Riggs, born October 4, 1742, lived in this locality, possibly with older brothers, as early as 1761. About the year 1771, he married Carolina Welsh. Elisha Riggs was quite active in the Flying Camp, that notable component of the Maryland Line, and the archives contain interesting references to his military career.

Early in 1776 he was captain of a company of dragoons with the Flying Camp. His commander wrote to the Council of Safety, at Annapolis, saying that his disposition "does honour to him as an American." The young cavalryman's career was soon over; he made his will on May 17, and died less than a month later on June 6, 1777. He left his widow with five small children. The widowed Carolina married Jacob Holland in 1781, and died a few years later.

John Hammond Riggs, a son, born March 5, 1773, seems to have eventually acquired title to the Bordley's Choice property. Although Captain Elisha Riggs left his children equal portions, to this he added other land, willed by a bachelor uncle, Lieutenant John Riggs, who died in 1808. The estate which he developed amounted to about 500 acres. Here he established his plantation before the death of his

*Locust Grove I*  
29/16

Resolution No. 10-777  
Introduced: June 11, 1984  
Adopted: June 11, 1984

*M:29-16*

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
SITTING AS A DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PORTION  
OF THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT  
WITHIN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Approved and Adopted Master Plan for Historic Preservation in Montgomery County, Maryland

WHEREAS, in September, 1983, the Montgomery County Planning Board transmitted to the Montgomery County Council the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan, proposing the addition of several historic sites for inclusion in the Master Plan and the removal of several sites from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 1983, the Montgomery County Council held a public hearing wherein oral and written testimony was received concerning the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 1984, the Council Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee reviewed the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan and the issues raised at the public hearing with the Montgomery County Planning Board, staff and affected parties; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County Council reviewed the recommendations of the Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee at a worksession held on June 11, 1984.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council, sitting as a District Council for that portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District within Montgomery County, that -

The Historic Preservation Master Plan is hereby amended by the inclusion of the following sites and/or resources:

1. Dickerson Station
2. Brewer Farm
3. Bussard Farm

- M: 29-16
4. Pleasant View Church #2
  5. Pleasant Hills
  6. Glen Store and Post Office
  7. Locust Grove I (Magruder House)
  8. Ellerslie
  9. Hayes Manor
  10. Woodend

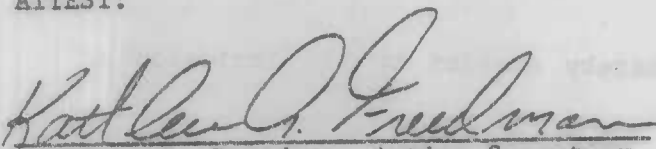
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following sites and/or resources are hereby removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland as not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code:

1. Darby/Offutt Farm
2. Frank Higgins (Hoskinson) House
3. Rudolph Beall House
4. Nathaniel Clagett
5. Jones House
6. Travilah Baptist Church
7. Greenbury Jackson House
8. Samuel Ford House
9. Granger Estate (Holton Arms School)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the decision regarding the proposed deletion of the Samuel Higgins House and Rammed-Earth House (Oakmont) from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland, is hereby deferred for further review and consideration by the Council.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Kathleen A. Freedman, Acting Secretary  
of the County Council for  
Montgomery County, Maryland

- Associated for more than 100 years with the Magruder family, prominent in the early history of the State and County.
- Farm cultivated as early as 1734, reclaimed in the mid-1800's by Otho Magruder, an early proponent of agricultural innovation in the County.

24/13 Pleasant View Church #2 (p. 10)

- 19th Century vernacular rural black church with unusual truncated steeple.
- The three acre parcel includes a cemetery, privy and the Quince Orchard Negro Schoolhouse built c. 1875. The entire parcel should be retained as the environmental setting.

24/21 Pleasant Hills (p. 11)

- Built circa 1763—Fine example of Georgian brick construction and one of the oldest brick homes in the County.
- Originally associated with the Gassaway family early settlers in the Darnestown area of the county.
- To preserve the integrity of this site any development that occurs on the property should be effectively clustered away from the main house.

29/3 Glen Store and Post Office (p. 12)

- Built circa 1899—Good example of a rural, turn-of-the-century combined residential/ commercial structure.
- Rural Victorian design which is the last remnant of the historic Glen community.
- The Approved and Adopted Master Plan for the Potomac Subregion recommends improvement of South Glen Road to a primary street. If and when the road is widened, this amendment recommends the center line be shifted to the east in the vicinity of the store so the improvement does not adversely affect the store and the historic relationship of the site to the roadway can be retained.

29/16 Locust Grove I (Magruder House) (p. 13)

- Built circa 1773—Original Federal style brick residence; remodeled circa 1895 in the Victorian style.
- Associated with Samuel Wade Magruder, a patriot in the American Revolution and one of the "founding fathers" of Montgomery County.
- The boyhood home of William Wurt, well-known author and lawyer who served as the Attorney General of the United States from 1817 to 1829 under the presidencies of James Monroe and John Quincy Adams.



M:29-16

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated

MAY 1983

ACTION TAKEN

Resources one through seven for placement on the Master Plan

Resources eight through fifteen found not to meet Ordinance criteria for placement and are recommended to be removed from Locational Atlas

1. Samuel Higgens House, Site 24/10  
12901 Meadow View Dr.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20760

2. Pleasant View Church #2, Site 24/13  
Darnestown Rd.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20760

3. Pleasant Hills, Site 24/21  
14800 Darnestown Rd.  
Germantown, MD 20767

4. Glen Store and Post Office, Site 29/3  
11530 S. Glen Rd.  
Potomac, MD 20854

5. Locust Grove (Magruder House), Site 29/16  
7401 Lakeview Dr.  
Bethesda, MD 20034

6. Ellerslie, Site 29/36  
9030 Saunders Lane  
Bethesda, MD 20034

7. Brewer Farm, Site 12/38  
20201 Darnestown Rd.  
Beallsville, MD 20753

8. Darby Offut Farm, Site 24/3  
15330 Darnestown Rd.  
Germantown, MD 20767

9. Frank Higgens (Hoskinson) House, Site 24/9  
13415 Darnestown Rd.  
Germantown, MD 20767

10. Rudolph Beall House, Site 24/11  
15700 Norman Dr.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20760

11. Nathaniel Clagett Farm, Site 24/31  
13611 Deakins Lane  
Germantown, MD 20767

12. Jones House, Site 25/7  
Potomac Horse Center  
Gaithersburg, MD 20760

13. Travilah Baptist Church, Site 25/10-2  
12811 Glen Rd.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20760

14. Greenbury/Jackson House, Site 29/14  
10220 Kentsdale Dr.  
Potomac, MD 20854

15. Samuel Ford House, Site 29/24  
10800 Cripplegate Rd.  
Potomac, MD 20854

M:29-16

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated September 19, 1983

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites are recommended for inclusion in Chapter 4 of the Master Plan:

M: 12/21-1	Dickerson Station
M: 12/38	Brewer Farm
M: 22/7	Bussard Farm
M: 24/13	Pleasant View Church #2
M: 24/21	Pleasant Hills
M: 29/3	Glen Store and Post Office
M: 29/16	Locust Grove I (Magruder House)
M: 29/36	Ellerslie
M: 35/10	Hayes Manor
M: 35/12	Woodend

The Planning Board did not find the following site warranted placement on the Master Plan as an individual site:

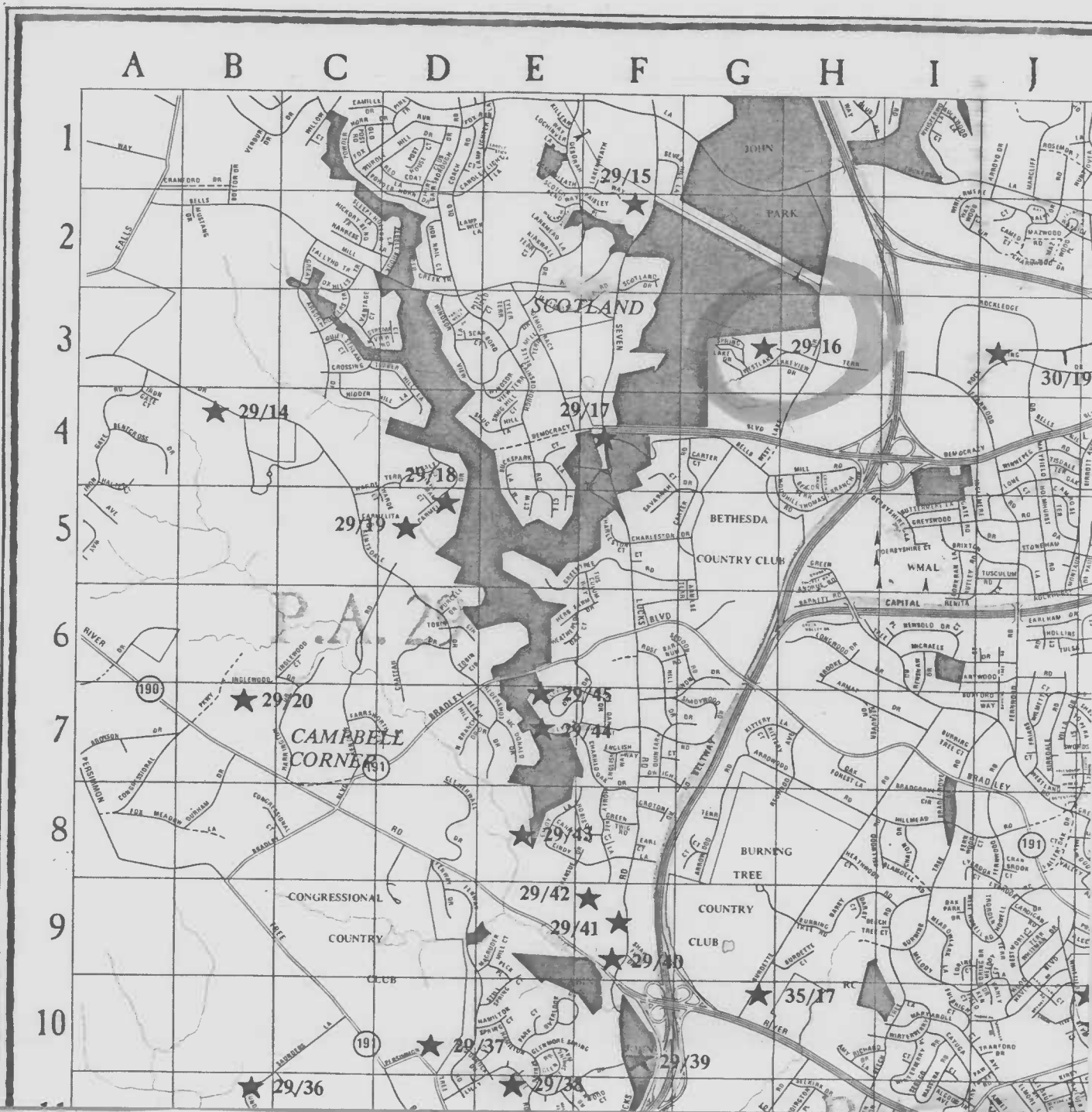
M: 35/24	Reading House
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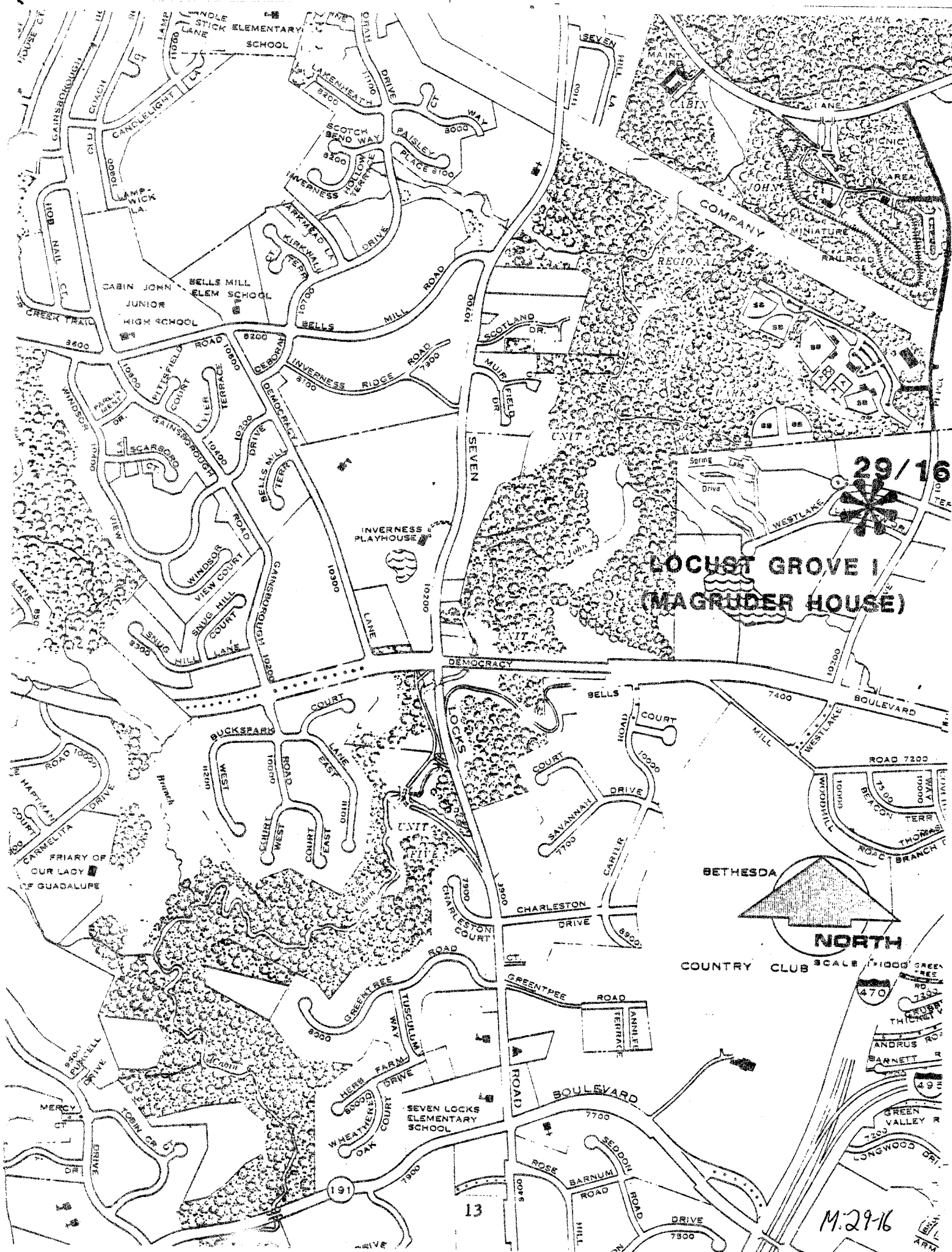
M: 29-16

Locust Grove

7401 Lakeshore Drive  
Westlake Terrace

Map  
**20**  
Page  
22





29/16  
**LOCUST GROVE I**  
**(MAGRUDER HOUSE)**

BETHESDA  
NORTH  
COUNTRY CLUB SCALE 1:1000  
470  
ANDRUS RD  
BARNETT  
GREEN VALLEY R  
LONGWOOD DR  
M.29-16



NAME LOCUST GROVE

M. #29-16

LOCATION WESTLAKE TERRACE, BETHESDA, MD.

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 5/12/75

M. DWYER



NAME LOCUST GROVE

M: #29-16

LOCATION WESTLAKE TERRACE, BETHESDA, MD.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 5/12/75  
M. DWYER





Locust Grove/MAGRUDER HSE.

~~10-52~~  
MONT.  
# 29-16

90  
J. Richard Rivoire August 1972